A regular meeting of the University Senate will be held on
**Monday, December 7, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx**
Meeting link sent directly to Senate Members
Public access link: [https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/](https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/)

The Agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Call to order and Approval of Minutes of November 2, 2020 University Senate meeting
2. Report of the President
   Presented by President Tom Katsouleas
3. Report of the Senate Executive Committee
   Presented by SEC Chair Carol Atkinson-Palombo
4. Consent Agenda Items:
   Report of the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee
5. Report from Senate Scholastic Standards Committee by Senator Bedore
   PRESENTATION and VOTE on a joint motion with the Undergraduate Student Government to amend the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the University By-Laws E.II.3.b, Pass-Fail Grading
6. Report from Senate Faculty Standards Committee by Senator Holle
   Motion to endorse recommendation regarding the OVPR’s Administrative Review and Approval of Proposals for External Support Policy
7. Report on University Athletics
   Presented by David Benedict, Director of Athletics
8. New Business

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
Carol Atkinson-Palombo, Chair
Rajeev Bansal          Gary English
Nafis Fuad            Michael Hernandez
Andrea Hubbard       Deb Kendall
Gustavo Nanclares   Angela Rola
Eric Schultz         Manuela Wagner

Public access link:
[https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/](https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/)
I. The Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommends ADDITION of the following 1000- or 2000-level courses:

A. ECON 2451/W Economic Behavior and Health Policy (#16266/2119) [W – Approved by GEOC]

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

ECON 2451. Economic Behavior and Health Policy
3.0 credits
Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and ECON 1202. Not open for credit to students who have passed ECON 3451.
Grading Basis: Graded
Basic principles of health economics, including the demand for health, health behaviors, public-health economics, and behavioral health economics, applied to five topics: smoking, obesity, opioid and other drug addictions, depression, and infectious diseases.

ECON 2451W. Economic Behavior and Health Policy
3.0 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011; ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and ECON 1202. Not open for credit to students who have passed ECON 3451.
Grading Basis: Graded
Basic principles of health economics, including the demand for health, health behaviors, public-health economics, and behavioral health economics, applied to five topics: smoking, obesity, opioid and other drug addictions, depression, and infectious diseases.

B. GERM 1920 Cyborgs, Robots, and Androids in the German Imaginary (#2935) [Approved by GEOC for CA1-b and CA4-Int]

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

GERM 1920. Cyborgs, Robots, and Androids in the German Imaginary
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: None
Grading Basis: Graded
An examination of the figure of the nonhuman-human and representations of artificial beings in the German imaginary with a focus on issues of technology, art, philosophy of subjectivity, and culture. Discussion of imaginary and real robots, cyborgs, homunculi, and automata as representations of humanity’s understanding of futurity and innovation. Taught in English. CA 1. CA 4-INT.
C. PHIL 1108E Environmental Philosophy (#2694)  
*Proposed Catalog Copy*  
PHIL 1108E. Environmental Philosophy  
3.00 credits  
Prerequisites: None  
Grading Basis: Graded  
Philosophical issues raised by humanity’s interaction with its environment. Topics may include ethical and policy ramifications of the use of non-human animals for food, medicine, and scientific inquiry; whether the natural world has a status calling for its protection or preservation; obligations to future generations; environmental justice; and movements such as deep ecology, ecofeminism, and social ecology. CA 1.

D. STAT 2255 Statistical Programming (#3474)  
*Proposed Catalog Copy*  
STAT 2255. Statistical Programming  
3.00 credits  
Prerequisites: MATH 1132Q, or instructor consent.  
Grading Basis: Graded  
Introduction to statistical programming via Python including data types, control flow, object-oriented programming, and graphical user interface-driven applications such as Jupyter notebooks. Emphasis on algorithmic thinking, efficient implementation of different data structures, control and data abstraction, file processing, and data analysis and visualization.

II. The Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommends REVISION of the following 1000- or 2000-level courses:

A. ECON 2327/W Information Technology for Economics (#2121) [Add W section – Approved by GEOC]  
*Current Catalog Copy*  
ECON 2327. Information Technology for Economics  
3.00 credits  
Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and 1202; STAT 1000Q or 1100Q.  
Grading Basis: Graded  
The presentation of economic data and testing of economic theory through the use of appropriate computer based tools. Analysis of macroeconomics concepts such as the consumption function, influence of the money supply, budget deficits, and interest rates on macroeconomic equilibrium, and the tradeoff between unemployment and inflation. Analysis of microeconomic concepts such as demand, supply, elasticity, the achievement of equilibrium price and quantity, and analysis of several industries and the stock market. Analysis of historical data such as aggregate and specific price levels, sectoral shifts in the economy, and changes in income distribution.
Revised Catalog Copy
ECON 2327. Information Technology for Economics
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and 1202; STAT 1000Q or 1100Q.
Grading Basis: Graded
The presentation of economic data and testing of economic theory through the use of appropriate computer based tools. Analysis of macroeconomics concepts such as the consumption function, influence of the money supply, budget deficits, and interest rates on macroeconomic equilibrium, and the tradeoff between unemployment and inflation. Analysis of microeconomic concepts such as demand, supply, elasticity, the achievement of equilibrium price and quantity, and analysis of several industries and the stock market. Analysis of historical data such as aggregate and specific price levels, sectoral shifts in the economy, and changes in income distribution.

ECON 2327W. Information Technology for Economics
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and 1202; STAT 1000Q or 1100Q; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
The presentation of economic data and testing of economic theory through the use of appropriate computer based tools. Analysis of macroeconomics concepts such as the consumption function, influence of the money supply, budget deficits, and interest rates on macroeconomic equilibrium, and the tradeoff between unemployment and inflation. Analysis of microeconomic concepts such as demand, supply, elasticity, the achievement of equilibrium price and quantity, and analysis of several industries and the stock market. Analysis of historical data such as aggregate and specific price levels, sectoral shifts in the economy, and changes in income distribution.

B. ENGL 1701 Creative Writing I (#3215) [Level change, revise title]
Current Catalog Copy
ENGL 1701. Creative Writing I
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Cannot be taken for credit after passing ENGL 3701, 3703, or 3713.
Grading Basis: Graded
First course in creative expression. Covers two or more genres (fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and drama). Genres vary by section.

Revised Catalog Copy
ENGL 2701. Introduction to Creative Writing
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Cannot be taken for credit after passing ENGL 3701, 3703, or 3713.
Grading Basis: Graded
First course in creative expression. Covers two or more genres (fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, or drama). Genres vary by section.

C. SOCI 2701 Sustainable Societies (#15716/1998) [Add CA2 – Approved by GEOC]

*Current Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2701E. Sustainable Societies

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: SOCI 1001, SOCI 2709.

Grading Basis: Graded

Sociological perspectives on the concepts of sustainability, focusing on issues of climate change mitigation and adaptation, including questions of social transitions based on concepts of social justice, biomimicry, permaculture and the future of life on earth.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2701E. Sustainable Societies

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: SOCI 1001, SOCI 2709.

Grading Basis: Graded

Sociological perspectives on the concepts of sustainability, focusing on issues of climate change mitigation and adaptation, including questions of social transitions based on concepts of social justice, biomimicry, permaculture and the future of life on earth. CA 2.

D. SOCI 2705 Sociology of Food (#15717/1999) [Add CA2 – Approved by GEOC]

*Current Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2705E. Sociology of Food

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 3271 when offered either as Food or as Sustainability. Recommended preparation: SOCI 1001

Grading Basis: Graded

Social factors shaping the industrial food system, as well as a social analysis of viable alternatives.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2705E. Sociology of Food

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 3271 when offered either as Food or as Sustainability. Recommended preparation: SOCI 1001

Grading Basis: Graded
Social factors shaping the industrial food system, as well as a social analysis of viable alternatives. CA 2.

E. SOCI 2709W Society and Climate Change (#15715/1997) [Add CA2 – Approved by GEOC]

*Current Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2709WE. Society and Climate Change
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended Preparation: SOCI 1001. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 3271 when offered as Society and Climate Change.
Grading Basis: Graded
Sociological perspectives on the social, economic, political, and environmental causes and consequences of anthropogenic global climate change.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2709WE. Society and Climate Change
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Open to sophomores or higher; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended Preparation: SOCI 1001. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 3271 when offered as Society and Climate Change.
Grading Basis: Graded
Sociological perspectives on the social, economic, political, and environmental causes and consequences of anthropogenic global climate change. CA 2.

F. WGSS 2250 Critical Approaches to Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (#3458) [Revise prereqs]

*Current Catalog Copy*

WGSS 2250. Critical Approaches to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Recommended Preparation: Any 1000 level WGSS course.
Grading Basis: Graded
Theories, practice, and methodologies of the Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies interdiscipline.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

WGSS 2250. Critical Approaches to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: None
Grading Basis: Graded
Theories, practice, and methodologies of the Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies interdiscipline.
G. WGSS 2253. Introduction to Queer Studies (#3023) [Level change, revise title and description]

Current Catalog Copy

WGSS 2253. Introduction to Queer Studies
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open to students who have passed WGSS 3995 when offered as "Introduction to Queer Studies."
Grading Basis: Graded
Introduction to the interdisciplinary field of queer studies. Explores a range of issues including how to study queer sexualities in a globalizing world, methodological and theoretical approaches, the role of feminism and social justice activism in Queer Studies, and the integration of transgender studies into the field. Provides an understanding of intersectional approaches to human sexuality and how LGBTQA movements are shaped globally.

Revised Catalog Copy

WGSS 3256. Feminist, Queer, and Trans Theories
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open to students who have passed WGSS 3995 when offered as "Introduction to Queer Studies." Recommended Preparation: WGSS 2250
Grading Basis: Graded
Exploration of foundational and current critical theory in feminist, queer, and trans studies. Emphasis on the shared historical development of, transnational and intersectional approaches in, as well as controversies within and between these theoretical perspectives. Among diverse approaches to be considered are major feminist, queer, and trans revisions of critical race, psychoanalytic, Marxist, Foucauldian, indigenous and postcolonial theories.

III. The General Education Oversight Committee and the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommend REVISION of the following 3000- or 4000-level existing courses within or into the General Education curriculum:

A. ANTH/HRTS 3230/W Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech (#14977/1876) [Adding CA2, W]

Current Catalog Copy

ANTH 3230. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: HRTS 3230
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open for credit to students who have passed ANTH 3098 when offered as “Propaganda, Fake News and Hate Speech.”
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to regulate speech.
HRTS 3230. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: ANTH 3230
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open for credit to students who have passed ANTH 3098 when offered as “Propaganda, Fake News and Hate Speech.”
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to regulate speech.

Revised Catalog Copy
ANTH 3230. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: HRTS 3230
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open for credit to students who have passed ANTH 3098 when offered as “Propaganda, Fake News and Hate Speech.”
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to regulate speech. CA 2.

ANTH 3230W. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: HRTS 3230W
3.00 credits
Prerequisite: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to regulate speech. CA 2.

HRTS 3230. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: ANTH 3230
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Not open for credit to students who have passed ANTH 3098 when offered as “Propaganda, Fake News and Hate Speech.”
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to regulate speech. CA 2.

HRTS 3230W. Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech
Also offered as: ANTH 3230W
3.00 credits
Prerequisite: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Draws on current social science research to understand the effects of false information and hate
speech on our politics and culture and to evaluate various private and public initiatives to
regulate speech. CA 2.

B. COMM 4222/W People of Color and Interpersonal Communication (#15846/2047) [Revise
number, prereqs]

*Current Catalog Copy*

COMM 4222. People of Color and Interpersonal Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000 and 3200
Grading Basis: Graded
Impact of race, ethnicity, and culture on interpersonal interactions. Surveys key theories and
empirical works of past and current race relations in the U.S., negotiation of identity, and ways
identity is communicated in various personal relationships.

COMM 4222W. People of Color and Interpersonal Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000 and 3200; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Impact of race, ethnicity, and culture on interpersonal interactions. Surveys key theories and
empirical works of past and current race relations in the U.S., negotiation of identity, and ways
identity is communicated in various personal relationships.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

COMM 3222. People of Color and Interpersonal Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2200.
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4222. Impact of race, ethnicity, and culture on interpersonal
interactions. Surveys key theories and empirical works of past and current race relations in the
U.S., negotiation of identity, and ways identity is communicated in various personal
relationships.

COMM 3222W. People of Color and Interpersonal Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2200; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4222. Impact of race, ethnicity, and culture on interpersonal
interactions. Surveys key theories and empirical works of past and current race relations in the
U.S., negotiation of identity, and ways identity is communicated in various personal relationships.

C. COMM 4410/W Government Communication (#15856/2056) [Revise title, number, prereqs; Add non-W version]

Current Catalog Copy
COMM 4410W. Government Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher.
Grading Basis: Graded
Communication in government processes. Communication theory and practical applications. Issue management, lobbying, interest-group strategies, government relations, grassroots action, and coalition building. Students may not pass this course without passing the written work.

Revised Catalog Copy
COMM 3410. Political Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2300 or 2500
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4410. Communication in political processes and the role of mass media in American politics. Topics may include campaigning, issue management, lobbying, interest-group strategies, government relations, grassroots action, and coalition building.

COMM 3410W. Political Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2300 or 2500; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4410. Communication in political processes and the role of mass media in American politics. Topics may include campaigning, issue management, lobbying, interest-group strategies, government relations, grassroots action, and coalition building.

D. COMM 4930W Public Relations Writing (#15844/2045) [Revise number, prereqs]

Current Catalog Copy
COMM 4930W. Public Relations Writing
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 4820; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher.
Grading Basis: Graded
Philosophy and practice of good, ethical and effective public relations for advanced students. Writing projects such as press releases, media advisories, briefing packets, speech introductions, brochures, newsletters, and op-eds.
Revised Catalog Copy

COMM 4530W. Public Relations Writing
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 3530; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Philosophy and practice of good, ethical and effective public relations for advanced students.
Writing projects such as press releases, media advisories, briefing packets, speech introductions, brochures, newsletters, and op-eds.

E. HIST 3205/W Personality and Power in the Twentieth Century (#2594) [Revise level, title; Add CA1 and W version]

Current Catalog Copy

HIST 3205. Personality and Power in the Twentieth Century
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: None
Grading Basis: Graded
Dynamic leadership in historical crises, including, for example, Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin, Hitler, DeGaulle, Kennedy, and Mao.

Revised Catalog Copy

HIST 2205. Personality and Power in History
3.00 credits
Graded
Prerequisites: None
Analysis of the links between personality and power in various countries and across different eras. CA 1.

HIST 2205W. Personality and Power in History
3.00 credits
Graded
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011
Analysis of the links between personality and power in various countries and across different eras. CA 1.

F. PHAR 3087W Honors Thesis in Pharmacy[W] (#13865/1688) [Adding PHRX cross-listing]

Current Catalog Copy

PHAR 3087W. Honors Thesis in Pharmacy
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy.
Grading Basis: Honors Credit
Open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy with consent of the instructor and Associate Dean.

Revised Catalog Copy
PHAR 3097W. Honors Thesis in Pharmacy
3.00 credits
Also offered as: PHRX 3097W
Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy.
Grading Basis: Honors Credit
Open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy with consent of the instructor and Associate Dean.

PHRX 3097W. Honors Thesis in Pharmacy
3.00 credits
Also offered as: PHAR 3097W
Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy.
Grading Basis: Honors Credit
Open only to honors students within the School of Pharmacy with consent of the instructor and Associate Dean.

G. WGSS 3265W Research Methodology (#3040) [Revise title and description]
Current Catalog Copy
WGSS 3265W. Research Methodology
3.00 credits.
Prerequisites: Any 1000-level WGSS course, or HIST 1203; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors.
Grading Basis: Graded
Analyses of gender bias in research design and practice, problems of androcentric values, and over-generalization in research. Varieties of feminist research methods and their implications for the traditional disciplines. Student projects using different methodologies. Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors are strongly urged to take this course as early as possible and before PHIL 3218. SM 11/3/14

Revised Catalog Copy
WGSS 3265W. Producing Intersectional, Interdisciplinary and Transnational WGSS Scholarship
3.00 credits.
Prerequisites: WGSS 2250; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to WGSS majors and minors. Grading Basis: Graded
Exploration of the theoretical underpinnings of diverse critical scholarship used by WGSS researchers and the significance of praxis for fostering knowledge production in this
interdisciplinary, intersectional, and transnational field. Explication of the ethical dilemmas faced by feminist, critical race, queer and trans scholars and other critical scholars, activists, artists, and policy makers. Experiential opportunities in designing and producing WGSS scholarship.

IV. The Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommends REVISION of the following 3000- or 4000-level S/U Graded Courses:

A. GEOG 4090 Internship in Geography: Field Study (#14088/1733) [Revise restrictions and repeatability]

Current Catalog Copy
GEOG 4090. Internship in Geography: Field Study
1.00 - 3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Must be taken with GEOG 4091; open to juniors or higher
Grading Basis: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
A fieldwork internship program under the direction and supervision of the geography staff. Students will be placed in agencies or industries where their academic training will be applied. One 8-hour work day per week (or its equivalent) for the host agency during the course of the semester will be necessary for 3 academic credits. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory.) May not be repeated for credit. Hours by arrangement with hosting agency, not to exceed 16 hours per week.

Revised Catalog Copy
GEOG 4090. Internship in Geography: Field Study
1.00 - 3.00 credits.
Prerequisites: Must be taken with at least one credit of GEOG 4091 if more than one internship credit is requested in a semester; open to sophomores or higher. May be repeated to a maximum of fifteen credits. Only six credits of internship (between GEOG 4090 and 4091) may count towards the GEOG or GIS major. Instructor consent required.
Grading Basis: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
A fieldwork internship program under the direction and supervision of the geography staff. Students will be placed in agencies or industries where their academic training will be applied. One 8-hour work day per week (or its equivalent) for the host agency during the course of the semester will be necessary for 3 academic credits. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory.) Hours by arrangement with hosting agency, not to exceed 16 hours per week.

V. The General Education Oversight Committee and Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommend approval the following courses for offering in intensive session format:

A. ART 3375 Indian Art and Popular Culture [CA1, CA4-Int]
B. EPSY 2450 Whole Child, School, and Community: Linking Health and Education [CA2]
C. NRE 2215E Introduction to Water Resources [EL]
D. POLS 3240E Environmental and Climate Justice [CA2, EL]

Respectfully Submitted by the 20-21 Senate Curricula and Courses Committee: Eric Schultz (Chair), Kate Fuller, Manuela Wagner (Ex-Officio), Alana Adams, Mark Brand, John Chandy, Marc Hatfield, Benjamin Keilty (Student Rep), Matt McKenzie, George Michna, David Ouimette, Sharyn Rusch, Lauren Schlesselman (Ex-Officio), Irene Soteriou (Student Rep), Steve Stifano, Gina Stuart, Julia Yakovich, Terra Zuidema

From the 11/2/20 and 11/16/20 meetings.
Background:

The Undergraduate Student Government (USG) brought a motion under New Business to the 11.2.2020 Senate meeting to fully relax the P/F rules for Fall 2020. Although that motion did not meet the threshold for passage, many senators expressed an interest in providing relief to students during this difficult and unprecedented semester. The SSC and USG discussed crafting a joint proposal to provide additional time for students to make a P/F decision for both the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters. In consultation with the University Registrar, the SSC and USG proposes a new deadline for the P/F decision for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 only.

Existing (temporary) Senate By-Law II.E.3.b:
A student may elect a maximum of 12 credits (not including Spring 2020) to be distributed over not more than three courses, to be recorded as ‘P’ for Pass or ‘F’ for Fail on his or her permanent record. Courses taken on Pass-Fail may only be used as electives; they may not be used to satisfy general education, school/college, major or minor requirements. Students who are adding a course to or removing a course from the Pass-Fail option must obtain advisor consent and submit the request by 11:59 pm on November 20, 2020 for the Fall 2020 semester and by 11:59 pm on April 9, 2021 for the Spring semester. During the semester the student completes the course and is graded in the usual way by the instructor; and the instructor submits a letter grade (per 3a, above). This letter grade is translated into a ‘P’ (‘D-’ or above) or remains an ‘F.’ In neither event will a course taken under the Pass-Fail option be included in the computation of the semester or cumulative grade point average, but a grade below ‘C’ makes the student ineligible for Dean’s List. The individual schools and colleges have the privilege of adopting the Pass-Fail option with or without supplementary restrictions. Students are referred to the detailed statements of the various schools in the University Catalog for such restrictions.

Proposed modification of II.E.3.b for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 only:
A student may elect a maximum of 12 credits (not including Spring 2020) to be distributed over not more than three courses, to be recorded as ‘P’ for Pass or ‘F’ for Fail on his or her permanent record. Courses taken on Pass-Fail may only be used as electives; they may not be used to satisfy general education, school/college, major or minor requirements. Students who are adding a course to, or removing a course from the Pass-Fail option must obtain advisor consent and submit the request by 11:59 pm on November 20, **December 28, 2020** for the Fall 2020 semester and by 11:59 pm on **April 9, 2021 May 14, 2021** for the Spring semester. During the semester the student completes the course and is graded in the usual way by the instructor; and the instructor submits a letter grade (per 3a, above). This letter grade is translated into a ‘P’ (‘D-’ or above) or remains an ‘F.’ In neither event will a course taken under the Pass-Fail option be included in the computation of the semester or cumulative grade point average, but a grade below ‘C’ makes the student ineligible for Dean’s List. The individual schools and colleges have the privilege of adopting the Pass-Fail option with or without supplementary restrictions. Students are referred to the detailed statements of the various schools in the University Catalog for such restrictions.
University Senate Faculty Standards Committee
Report to the University Senate
December 7, 2020

Background
The Administrative Review and Approval of Proposals for External Support Policy is a long-standing policy, originally created 6/12/2008 and revised 6/24/2015, that requires all proposal submissions seeking external support for research and other sponsored projects be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) Sponsored Program Services (SPS) within a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the agency or submission deadline for review and approval of the full proposal, internal forms and budget. One of the main challenges for both investigators and SPS support staff is the bottleneck that occurs immediately prior to proposal submission. Nearly two-thirds of all proposals submitted in recent years are received by SPS (with all components ready) within 1 working day or less of the sponsor deadline. As a result, numerous proposals are just barely getting submitted on time and proposals that have been submitted to SPS far in advance may not get a timely and thorough review because other proposals with an earlier deadline came in late. This situation creates unnecessary stress on investigators, local research administrators, and SPS staff, and cannot be addressed by adjusting staffing levels alone. Thus, OPVR is taking initiatives to remedy the submission bottleneck. One of them is to implement an enforcement of their existing policy, clarifying the items that are required to be submitted within 5 business days of submission deadline in an effort to allow more timely review for all faculty, many of whom submit their proposals ahead of the deadline, but are not able to receive a timely review because are backlogged to attend to those who submit late.

The Senate Executive Committee asked the Faculty Standards Committee to review and discuss the proposed policy enforcement, which was originally slated to begin September 2020. However, it was delayed due to the OPVR/SPS’s willingness to work with the Faculty Standards Committee and Senate Executive Committee to review and provide feedback on the revision to the existing policy.

Current Policy:
Administrative Review and Approval of Proposals for External Support (Found at: https://policy.uconn.edu/2011/05/26/administrative-review-and-approval-of-proposals-for-external-support/)

REASON FOR POLICY
The timely submission of proposals for internal UConn review and approval allows for thoughtful consideration and review of sponsored project proposals for compliance with University, Federal, State and sponsor policies. Additionally, Sponsored Program Services professionals review proposals against the administrative requirements of the sponsor’s announcement, including budgets and budget justifications to identify potential administrative or financial challenges to the success of the proposal.

POLICY
All proposal submissions seeking external support for research and other sponsored projects must be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) Sponsored Program Services (SPS) for review and approval prior to submission to an external sponsor, even when institutional sign-off is not required by the sponsor.
All letters-of-intent and pre-proposal submissions seeking external support for research and other sponsored projects must be submitted to Sponsored Program Services for review and approval prior to submission to an external sponsor if the signature of an authorized official, a detailed budget, or cost share commitment is required.

Proposals submitted without SPS approval may be administratively withdrawn or the offer of funding (award) may not be accepted if the submission is found to be non-compliant with University, Federal, State or sponsor policies.

SPS requests a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the agency or submission deadline for review and approval of the full proposal, internal forms and budget.

The University of Connecticut reserves the right to withdraw any proposal or refuse acceptance of any award that does not comply with this policy.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
The Executive Director of Sponsored Programs and Faculty Services has overall responsibility for this policy. The Principal Investigator accepts the responsibility for the timely submission of all proposals and pre-proposals that require SPS approval to SPS. The Department Head, Center Director and/or Dean attests to the academic purposes of the proposed project and its appropriateness in terms of budget, committed effort, space and equipment. The Executive Director of Sponsored Programs and Faculty Services is the authorized signatory for all proposals for sponsored programs. In the absence of the designated official, arrangements are made to ensure timely signing by alternate University signatories. Principal Investigators, Department Heads, Deans and other individuals as required are responsible for authorizing and signing internal processing documents, but are not authorized to sign a sponsored projects proposal as the institutional official on behalf of the University.

PROCEDURE/FORMS
See OVPR SPS website: Proposal Preparation Guidelines

ENFORCEMENT
Violations of this policy may result in appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with University Laws and By-Laws, General Rules of Conduct for All University Employees, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and the University of Connecticut Student Code.

POLICY HISTORY
Policy created: 6/12/2008
Revised: 6/24/2015 (approved by the Vice President for Research)

Summary of Original Proposed Process Changes
Although guidance on internal deadlines was issued in the OVPR Town Hall, as well as in OVPR updates in March and April, along with FAQs, this guidance has not resulted in a change in last-minute proposal submissions.

Beginning X/X/YYYY
SPS will begin enforcing internal deadlines for proposals. All proposals must be submitted to SPS 5 business days before the deadline day. Proposals that are not received five business days prior to the deadline day, or which are not complete, will not be reviewed or submitted. Five business days does not include the deadline day or holidays when the SPS office is closed.
As a key service, Principal Investigators and Department Administrators will receive a full review from Pre-Award within three business days. Additionally, SPS will commit to a one-week turnaround on all proposals that do not have a hard deadline.

Due to SPS 5 Business DAYS Prior to the Day of Submission
- IPR (signed)
- Final Budget
- Final Budget Justification
- Solicitation/Guidelines (if there is no solicitation, please indicate this)
- Complete Proposal with all documents included/uploaded
  - narrative documents including abstract, project description and references cited may all be in draft form
- Other internal forms, completed and fully approved (cost sharing, PI Eligibility, etc.), if applicable
- Subrecipient documents, if applicable

SPS Pre-Award will complete their review of proposals received within 3 business days and will submit proposals without hard deadlines within 5 business days following the same process.

Faculty Standards Discussion

Initial Discussion
The Faculty Standards Committee reviewed the proposed internal deadline for grant proposals and related FAQs and correspondence received from the SEC and OPVR. The committee expressed an understanding of the issues OPVR is facing, including the stress and pressure put on SPS staff, significant delays in review for those investigators submitting in advance of the deadlines, and the potential for a reduction in the quality of rushed reviews. The faculty investigators were also interested in an efficient, expeditious, and high-quality review process but do have several concerns about this proposed enforcement policy. The concerns ranged from potential loss of funding opportunities to lack of clarity around what should be submitted when, and concern that in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, faculty are not only adapting their teaching and research programs, but may be doing so in a less than ideal environment because of family situations also dealing with pandemic (eg, childcare, homeschool children, home-work environments). This in particular may have a significant impact on pre-tenure faculty and other underrepresented groups; committee recommends this should be considered.

However, since not all stakeholders involved in the grant proposal submission process had been engaged in reviewing the proposal for enforcement of the internal deadline for grant proposals, we believed more discussion was warranted before imposing this policy. We requested input from tenure-track and non-tenure track faculty at all levels with relevant grant experience as well as grant support staff at the College/School levels, Deans of Colleges/Schools, and staff within SPS to ensure that an efficient and expeditious process that supports all staff and faculty in the submission of high quality grants was identified. We realized OPVR wanted to initiate this policy more quickly, but felt it warranted more discussion and invited OVPR/SPS staff to discuss further.

FSC Committee Discussion with Michael Glasgow, Jr.; Associate VP for Research Sponsored Program Services:
Mike Glasgow, Jr. shared some of the efforts of SPS to improve the efficiency and quality of proposal review/submission including 1) recruitment and hiring of staff to assist with grant writing; 2) further training of SPS and college/school level grant support staff for efficiency and appropriateness of grant
review as well as new staff orientation that will be lengthy (6 mo+); 3) new faculty orientation and guidance about the SPS and grant writing process; 4) clear role/responsibilities delineation of local grant staff; 5) roll-out of software that will allow investigators to see where the grant submission is within review process and communication with all involved in grant submission; and 6) implementation date will occur January 1, 2021 with a Town Hall for further discussion amongst stakeholders Fall 2020.

Committee members asked for clarification on following and discussion ensued as such:

- Data on when submissions are received from colleges/schools vs when SPS reviews/submits and data on when college/school grant review and SPS review have discordant recommendations. Mike Glasgow, Jr stated he has data but not with him for this discussion
- Implementation process – seems as this could be tricky if in a situation where no pass is available and investigator is unable to submit – that means a potential financial and research credibility loss for the investigator and university. Will the university be willing to do this in the end? After first year, the passes used will be reviewed and the process evaluated for further description for 2022.
  - Exceptions to the research deadline enforcement include
    - Late-breaking grant submission deadlines
    - Rapid awards
    - Multi-institution awards
- Fairness if there is a technical glitch or the investigator submits early but because of backlog it puts unfair stress/potential for errors on the investigator’s part as they don’t have clear expectations when it will be returned from SPS for revisions. This might lead to investigators “not working at their best” especially during pandemic
- UConn Health subawards/shared grant contract improvement – Mike Glasgow Jr indicated liaisons at each site (UConn-Storrs and UConn Health) who can facilitate subawards/grant review process; an affiliation agreement is underway to allow collaborations without typical subaward process

Summary
The FSC emphasizes the need to have this be a collaborative and not punitive effort that continues to work toward the goal of a highly successful research university that can strive to meet President Katsouleas’s goal of doubling research. Additionally that given pandemic, we all understand the tremendous pressures/stressors that are not typical and that this should be considered when issuing this policy.

Motion:
The Faculty Standards Committee moves that the University Senate endorse the following recommendation.

The Faculty Standards Committee (FSC) opposes the blanket enforcement of the OVPRs “5-day rule” (a rule requiring the submission of proposal documents 5-days prior to the sponsor submission deadline) without appropriate discussion and input from the faculty, staff, and other stakeholders. The FSC recommends the formation of a faculty-staff-OVPR working group to identify impediments to the expeditious review of proposals in advance of deadlines and propose solutions, to be presented to the University Senate and the OVPR, that enable all parties to work together effectively to support the University’s pre-award operations.